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Moore Lake tragedy leaves one man dead

by DARREN LUM

Times Staff

The tragic drowning of a 39-year-old North York man in Moore Lake in Minden Hills this past weekend is a strong reminder to the public about the dangers of not wearing a life jacket while boating.

It's unknown how, but the canoe with the man and three others capsized on Sept. 12. A woman and two young girls survived the incident thanks to passersby, who were on the scene before the Haliburton Highlands OPP and emergency crews responded.

The OPP said in a prepared statement that "investigators are citing absence of safety equipment as a significant contributing factor in this tragedy."

The man's body was recovered from Moore Lake by the coordinated efforts of an OPP helicopter and the underwater search and recovery unit and the Minden Hills Fire Department shortly after 6 p.m.

Eniko Tamas said she was up visiting the area with her husband and son, friend Monika Peczeli and her husband and son, staying at the Lutterworth Valley Trailer Camp, located off the Gull River in Minden Hills.

They were not interviewed by police at the time and first shared their perspective following a media release posted to the

see WITNESSES page 3



Touring the past

Artist Gary Blundell and historian Guy Scott led a tour of the relics of the area's iron mining past on Saturday, Sept. 12 in locations around Minden Hills. The tour introduced the group of about 30 people to some of the mining sites and other points of interest, which correspond to Blundell's current exhibition at the Agnes Jamieson Gallery in Minden: Navigations of Iron. See more on page 2. /Photo courtesy of Victoria Ward

MH projecting surplus despite pandemic

by CHAD INGRAM

Times Staff

Despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Minden Hills' director of finance is reporting a large surplus for the township so far in 2020.

A report on the municipality's finances from finance director Lorrie Blanchard received by councillors during a Sept. 10 committee-of-the-whole meeting showed that as of the end of July, there was a surplus of more than \$760,000 for general operations, and one of more than \$150,000 for the township's water and wastewater operations, for a combined total of nearly \$920,000.

Minden Hills also had a surplus of some \$900,000 for 2019.

While in some communities revenue losses and additional expenditures have some municipalities anticipating deficits as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, Blanchard's report shows that due to continued staffing

see CARTER page 2









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Councillor takes contract with CBC show, plans to donate pay to food bank

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

When CBC comedy series *Still Standing* films in Minden later this month, Minden Hills Councillor Jennifer Hughey will take a paid contract position with the production, with the agreement that money will be donated to the Minden Community Food Centre.

The series, which documents life in small towns across Canada, was initially scheduled to shoot in Minden in July, but producers now plan to film during the week of Sept. 20, councillors heard during a Sept. 10 online committee-of-the-whole meeting.

Hughey told her colleagues there was a "fixer" position, essentially a community coordinator position available with the production, and that she'd like to take it, with the caveat she donate all the money to the Minden Community Food Centre.

"It is a CBC-sanctioned job," Hughey said, asking councillors for their blessing, and explaining the process would be managed with the oversight of township chief administrative officer and clerk Trisha McKibbin.



Minden Hills councillors discuss the filming of CBC series *Still Standing* in Minden during a Sept. 10 committee-of-the-whole meeting. /Screenshot of Zoom meeting

"I'm comfortable with Councillor Hughey proceeding as she has laid out," said Councillor Bob Carter.

"I am as well," said Councillor Jean

Neville

A resolution passed by council approved Hughey taking the job, "with the agreement that any monies received will be donated to the Minden Community Food Centre, and further that all documentation of payment be forwarded to the finance department as proof of payment and proof of donation to the Minden Community Food Centre."

"I'm obviously declaring a conflict and will not be voting," Hughey said, as council passed the resolution.

Council also granted approval for the show's producers to proceed with the filming of a comedy segment at the Minden fairgrounds. Episodes of *Still Standing* conclude with host and comedian Johnny Harris doing a standup bit for members of the community he's visited about his experience in their town.

Normally, these performances take place in a theatre or auditorium, and the public is invited to attend.

In the case of Minden, that comedy show will take place at the band shell at the fair-grounds, and only those who've been involved in the filming, and their families, will be invited to attend, and will be seated in family bubbles in order to abide by COVID-19 safety protocols. The event will also be capped at 100 people, as per provincial regulations.

Carter cautions against over-budgeting

from page 1

shortages, along with delayed purchases, facility closures and service reductions as a result of the pandemic, it appears the township is heading for a large surplus.

"I would say the biggest driving force this year, of course, is COVID-19," Blanchard told councillors during the Sept. 10 online meeting.

For months there were reduced operations at the township's landfills, as well as associated communications activities, and Blanchard's report showed more than \$160,000 of the surplus being accrued there. There was another \$70,000 for recycling, nearly \$30,000 in unspent advertising, nearly \$25,000 in conference and education money that was not spent, and some \$45,000 for consulting and legal fees also unspent.

A number of delayed equipment purchases as well as delayed repairs and maintenance work contributed to the surplus, as did wages and benefits for unfilled staffing positions, to the tune of more than \$320,000.

While the township did accrue some \$83,000 worth of COVID-19-related expenses, "that has been offset by the funding received," Blanchard explained.

In August, it was announced that the province would provide a combined total of \$2.8 million in COVID-19 relief funding to Haliburton County and its four lower-tier townships, with Minden Hills receiving \$402,200.

"As we progress through the year, we will only bring in the amount of money that is required to offset year-to-date expenditures," Blanchard said, explaining that department heads had recently been asked to review all of their departmental spending and to keep tracking all COVID-19-related expenses.

"Based on this, and based on the fact that we are still in the midst of this pandemic, and things are still not going according to plan, I think I would like to get by the next committee-of-the-whole [meeting] . . . some idea of what the various department heads feel is actually happening with their budgets," said Councillor Bob Carter. "Do we have some projects that we normally would have completed in July, that we're now going to

do in November? How much of this present surplus is going to be used up by the various departments?"

"One of the things, obviously, is that wages and benefits, you know, we still have vacancies, and in fact, we have more vacancies now than we did when this report was written, so that number is probably not going to be used up... but I am concerned about other projects," said Councillor Bob Carter.

A reconstruction of Scotch Line Road, for example, is being pushed back until 2021.

Former economic development, destination and marketing officer Emily Stonehouse resigned from the township in early September for another opportunity.

"I guess I would like to have this report updated next month and then to also hear from the department heads, what their budget is going to look like through the end of the year, so that we can be prepared going into our budget time, and have a true picture of what our situation is," Carter said.

Blanchard said that process is underway, and that a list of affected capital projects is being compiled.

"I suspect there are going to be some items on that list that we are going to need some direction from council in terms of potentially moving the funds that were going to be used from taxation for those activities into reserves so that they can be carried forward in the 2021 budget," Blanchard said.

"As for a forecast, yes, that as well, because normally we'd bring that forward to council in October," Blanchard continued, adding it was her opinion the township would be looking at a year-end surplus.

"One of the things that we have to be careful of for 2021, is the fact that we can't have our normal projects plus all the projects that we missed in 2020, we probably just don't have the physical manpower and administrative power to be able to handle all those projects," Carter said. "So, we're really going to have to take a, you know, a hard look at what is realistic. Because there's no use budgeting for X-number dollars worth of projects when you don't have the manpower to be able to accomplish that. It just becomes bad budgeting."





Tracing Minden Hills' past

Above, Carol Simmons and Gary Blundell speak about the history of the church in Irondale, built by Charles Pusey. The church includes artifacts from Pusey's time in the Haliburton County area. Blundell currently has an exhibition on at the Agnes Jamieson Gallery featuring his take on the area's iron mining past. The exhibition is on until Sept. 26, open Tuesdays through Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for the next couple of weeks. /Photo courtesy of Victoria Ward

Left, a painting of Pusey's church, by artist Gary Blundell of Tory Hill.

Witnesses encouraged to contact OPP

from page 1

Minden Times' Facebook page.

Tamas has seen plenty of people on the water this summer and believes the public needs to know life jackets save lives.

"My message is please, please no matter how good you are [as a] swimmer, especially if you can't swim at all, no matter how good a boater you think you are, please, always wear a life jacket. Especially on children,"

From her experience swimming in Moore Lake, there is a deceptive undercurrent.

"It's very tricky because from the surface the boat goes one way, but when you're swimming it's actually the lake is pushing you the opposite way," she said.

Tamas said the two families from Barrie were out on the water fishing when Peczeli's husband and son saw the capsized canoe from their personal watercraft and another canoe a few hundred metres from shore. From their location, Tamas said they didn't think there was cause for alarm, but her husband still wanted to be sure and they all went over in their boat and Sea-Doo. When they arrived on the scene they saw a man in a canoe trying to help the woman and two young girls by throwing his life jacket to them in the water. After the mother and girl were pulled



OPP encourages all Ontarians to take personal responsibility for ensuring water safety for themselves and their children. It is important for everyone to be aware of proper boating and swimming practices.

into Tamas's boat, Peczeli's husband jumped into the water and swam to the girl, but was fully clothed and needed help from Tamas's husband to bring her into the boat together. Once the two men learned from the rescuer in the canoe the area where the North York man was last seen, they went under the water to search for him. Others eventually were on the scene trying to help, some calling 9-1-1.

Peczeli said recent news reports based on information provided by the OPP that the man did not get help after saving his girl are not true. While a release from the OPP said that the father had passed one of the children to a person in a rescue boat before he slipped underwater, the two families from Barrie say they did not witness that. By Tuesday afternoon, the OPP released an update, acknowledging the eye witness account. Peczeli said it was important to those who had jumped in the water, searching for the man, that the accurate account be put forward.

"It was so hard on them. You know you can't imagine. You know those guys. They're trying. You know [they] go under the water several times looking out. They had no clue where to look for him, but they still tried. They still tried. The water [was] so cold," Peczeli said.

Asked about the discrepancy between the initially released information by OPP and the information from Peczeli and Tamas, the OPP's Iryna Nebogatova said they commended the members of the public for their help in rescuing the people involved in the incident. Nebogatova reminded the public to take responsibility for one's safety.

"Regardless of the exact sequence of events, unfortunately, a life was lost. OPP encourages all Ontarians to take personal responsibility for ensuring water safety for themselves and their children. It is important for everyone to be aware of proper boating and swimming practices," she wrote in an email. "For those who had witnessed the incident but didn't speak to the police, we encourage them to reach out to Haliburton Highlands OPP and speak with the investigators."

Curbside still available while libraries re-open

by SUE TIFFIN Times Staff

The following are brief reports of items discussed during a Sept. 9 meeting of the Haliburton County Public Library board.

Erin Kernohan-Berning, branch services librarian, said curbside pick-up, while it was offered during branch closures, went well, with "very good uptake." The library will continue to offer the service by request.

"Now that we have the three branches [Minden, Dysart, Wilberforce] open, they'll still provide curbside pickup upon request, but it will be a simpler process in that they can just call the branch when they arrive, during operating hours, to come pick up their holds that way," she said. "With the branches open, that's definitely simplified that process a little bit."

"Is it too early to ask about the remaining library branches, as to what their status is going to be, based on the COVID thing? Or are we going to wait to see if there's a second surge, because they're talking about a second surge of COVID, so I'm just wondering," asked Cec Ryall, Highlands East deputy mayor. The Cardiff, Gooderham, Highland Grove and Stanhope branches remain closed to the public while the Dorset Library Depot in the Dorset Rec Centre is temporarily unavailable.

"My recommendation at this point would be for us to continue along with the three branches that we've opened, to see how things are going," said Kernohan-Berning, who noted the branches had only been open for two days at that point. "[I] can certainly put my mind to what we should do next, just given the way the numbers are creeping up in Ontario and school starting, it's probably good to continue on where we are for a little while yet."

"We were thinking it would probably be toward the end of the year," said Ryall. "We don't know if the second wave is going to hit and if it's going to hit hard."

"We don't know what's going to happen in the next few months," said Kernohan-Berning. "But right now, if things continue to go well, we can see about adding services,

Circulation and wi-fi numbers reviewed

Circulation numbers at the library show a drop in physical materials being circulated from March to June when the library buildings were closed to the public, but an increase in digital materials during that time and a sharp uptake when curbside pickup began. In Minden, 1,175 and 1,081 materials were borrowed in July and August, with Dysart seeing circulation of 1,151 and 912 materials in those months - down from more than 6,000 materials borrowed those months at those branches in the previous year, but up from less than 40 materials being moved during the branch closures. While almost 3,000 digital materials were borrowed each month up to March this year, those materials surpassed 3,000 borrows beginning in April.

Although libraries have been closed to public access, and so workstations in branches have not been used since closures, wi-fi is accessible to patrons who have sat or parked close to the library. In August, 1,269 sessions occurred in Dysart, 875 in Minden, 525 in Gooderham, 320 in Wilberforce, 218 in Cardiff, 72 in Highland Grove and 21 in Stanhope, or 3,330 sessions in the month, compared to 6,010 during the same period

Board chair Reuben Maughan noted there had been more wi-fi accessed in June this year – 2,216 sessions – compared to 1,777 in the same period last year.

"So we're still reaching some people even when the libraries aren't open," he said.

"I know the numbers are dramatically different than what we would normally see but I was really pleased to see some of the numbers that are in the report," said Liz Danielsen, warden of Haliburton County. "All things considered, we've done pretty darn well."

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(VIRTUAL) COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council and Committee of the Whole meetings are currently being conducted virtually via web conference, and Closed Session meetings via teleconference, until further notice. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM, unless otherwise noted.

Upcoming Meeting Schedule:

September 24 - Council Meeting October 8 - Committee of the Whole Meeting

Please note Council Meetings are reduced to one (1) meeting a month in December.

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link, available on the township website at www.mindenhills.ca/council/ or by using the direct link provided in the meeting notice. We encourage those wishing to view the meeting to also download the agenda, as it will not be displayed during the streaming process. Meeting agendas can be downloaded by visiting our website at www.mindenhills.ca/council/.

> Please note the live-stream link provided for each meeting will only be activated while Council is in session.

FIRE SAFETY

All children are at risk for using fire unsafely. Children play with fire for many reasons not realizing it's a danger. Many fires happen simply because matches and lighters are left within a child's reach. Proper intervention and instruction can provide a fire safe home.

Follow these tips to keep your family safe:

- Keep matches and lighters out of reach of children.
- Closely supervise children, teach them what to do if they see a fire, candles, cigarettes, matches and stoves.
- Teach them to inform an adult if they find matches or lighters.
- Be a good example and teach them about fire safety.
- Give praise for showing respect and being responsible toward fire.
- Talk to them and teach them that fire moves very fast and can hurt as soon as it touches them.
- Establish clear rules and consequences about unsupervised and unauthorized uses of fire.

IRONDALE LANDFILL CLOSURE

Effective October 1, 2020, the Irondale Landfill will permanently close to the public. The last day of operation will be September 30, 2020.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP # FIRE 20-02 2020/2021 4x4 Pick-Up Truck. The Minden Hills Fire Department is seeking a multi-purpose 4x4 Super Crew Cab Pick-up Truck intended for use in the Municipal Fire Department. Please visit www.mindenhills.ca for complete specifications and how to submit. The deadline for submissions is September 25, 2020 by 12:00 noon.



DID YOU KNOW?

Documents requiring a Notary Public cannot be commissioned by the Clerks Department. These must be taken to a lawyer in order to be commissioned.

Shoreline protection talks resume

by CHAD INGRAM Times Staff

Haliburton County councillors have resumed conversations regarding a shoreline protection bylaw for the county, one that would restrict site alteration and the removal of vegetation within 30 metres of the highwater mark around waterbodies.

Aimed at protecting lake health, those restrictions would go further than the county's existing tree preservation bylaw, which prohibits the cutting of trees within that 30-metre band, known as "the ribbon of life," for its ecological importance.

Conversations around the creation of the bylaw had gotten underway earlier this year, causing some controversy, particularly with local landscaping and construction companies. County council was planning a public input process that would have taken place throughout the summer with a series of town hall meetings, however, the COVID-19 pandemic interrupted that process.

County council resumed those talks during their Sept. 9 committee-of-the-whole meeting, reviewing and requesting revisions to a draft bylaw during a conversation that lasted more than two hours. A revised draft of the bylaw will come back to the council table, and a public input process will follow. Councillors also discussed a public communication and consultation plan during last week's meeting.

Algonquin Highlands Mayor Carol Moffatt wondered how the bylaw would dovetail with existing bylaws at the lower-tier municipal level.

"That's one of the questions that I've received a lot, is, can we get a broader explanation how the dovetailing will happen with municipalities and their bylaws and how they will work together?" Moffatt asked be delegating the authority up to the county and what happens, or what could or should happen, with any municipal bylaws that are lesser or conflict, and can you explain that?"

"In some cases the local municipalities have bylaws in place that cover some of these items," White said, using clean and clear bylaws, in place at the lower-tier level, as an example. "If that's to be included in the shoreline preservation bylaw, then what would happen before, I would recommend this to come into effect at the county, is work with the local municipality to either repeal, or repeal and replace, the bylaw that may conflict with this item."

"At the local level, there are no site alteration bylaws," White continued. "This would be the first and this would only apply across the shoreline areas, in all municipalities."

That's the way the county's existing tree preservation bylaw works as well.

"That is one of the many, many things I think we've heard from the public," Moffatt said, "is to eliminate that duplication or confusion, to achieve that one-stop shopping . . . I've heard that over and over."

There was some concern from some council members that the bylaw was too restrictive in some places, especially in the definition of "vegetation."

"I find this part extremely problematic," Moffatt said, "I fully support the protection and I get it, I get it, I want to do the best we can, but . . . people's yards are full of ragweed, and they might have allergies. You know, you can't tell me that someone has to get a permit from the county to pull ragweed out of their lawn because they have allergies. How far is too far?"

"Where are we crossing over from responsible maintenance, to treating people like children?" Moffatt added.

White said the draft bylaw included a list of work that would not require a permit from

county planner Charlsey White. "This will the county, "and some of that is exactly what you're talking about, just maintaining of existing landscaping or docks. If that material is in the area, no, we don't want to have that species-specific, you need to come in if you're doing 'x.' We want to make it clear so that people understand what they can easily do in their yard to maintain their yards. But yeah, we don't to have that permit for clipping your ragweed."

Dysart et al Deputy Mayor Pat Kennedy said he found the draft bylaw too restrictive.

"I think this is over the top, in my opinion," Kennedy said. "Things like goldenrod, if I want to trim some shrubs. Even though you say you don't want to nit-pick, I can just see it's going to be a nit-pick. If I bought waterfront, I'd be pretty concerned that I couldn't trim out some things that were noxious and allergenic without having to apply for a county permit, or listen to neighbour complaints.'

"I think this is really the crux of the bylaw, and if we're not considering leaving this language in, the rest of the bylaw falls apart," White said. "So maybe it's creating language to better explain the questions being asked here, so that it is clear that we're not being that nit-picky. What we're talking about is larger developments."

Kennedy added that similar bylaws in other regions extend 15 to 20 metres from the high-water mark, as opposed to 30, and said in his opinion the bylaw did nothing to address shoreline erosion.

"I guess I'll be the contrarian, I'm all in," said Minden Hills Mayor Brent Devolin, adding he supported leaving the draft bylaw the way it was and putting it out for public comment as such. "In central Ontario, I haven't been in any jurisdiction where I think the existing rules are working, at all . . . I don't kid myself that this is going to be easy, I do not. But water quality and natural habitat is the underpinning of the economy of Haliburton

County, full stop, and I see no other route [than] to buy into this philosophically, work with the elements that are challenging or problematic, and if elements are unworkable, to modify or remove them in the future as we go forward."

Devolin added he thought having the bylaw complete by next spring would be in the county's best interest, and a number of councillors mentioned they'd heard or witnessed major shoreline alteration projects that have taken place this year, with residents anticipating the creation of the bylaw.

"I am interested in being in the weeds because I think it's my job to represent the concerns that people have and the questions that have been asked, and, I can't send something out for public consultation until I fully understand what the implications are and some of those details are," Moffatt said.

Circling back to the issue of shoreline erosion that Kennedy had broached, Moffatt said, "I have an example of somebody I know who waited two years - wait until we get to the ministry, the other agencies part [of the bylaw] - two years for an MNR permit, all the while, their shoreline was falling into the lake, and eating their property back toward their building. So, it's all well and good for us to say we're going to rely on the jurisdictional parameters of other agencies, but only if those agencies are responding in a timely and efficient manner.

As for public consultation, a number of councillors seemed to agree to the idea of hiring a communications firm to create promotional and educational materials, and amid the COVID-19 pandemic, public input will be facilitated digitally and through means other than in-person town hall meetings.

A revised draft of the bylaw and updated information regarding the public input framework will come back to the council table.

HCSA AGM celebrates volunteers, prepares for a good future

by SUE TIFFIN Times Staff

The Haliburton County Snowmobiling Association saw more than 30 people attend the annual general meeting on Sept. 12, a group the association was thrilled to see.

"We knocked them out of the park," said John Enright, volunteer spokesperson for the Haliburton County Snowmobiling Association. "We haven't had a turn-out like that in years. Like, big, big turn-out. Most volunteer organizations, and especially notfor-profits are scratching for people to come to the meetings, to engage them, and we killed it.'

In total, Enright estimated about 36 people came to what he said was a meeting where they distanced from each other. The board is expanded to 10 directors, up three from last season and five of them being brand new. The board will select a president, vice-pres ident and secretary, who will be announced

"It was a really interesting mix of people, some seasonal people, some obviously permanent residents, and our core, core group who never take their toques off 365 days a

He attributed part of the reason to the high attendance numbers to the timing of the meeting, which was rescheduled due to earlier restrictions on group events in the province.

"I think COVID worked in our favour, believe it or not," said Enright. "Our bylaws say we have to have our AGM in June. Because of COVID, we had it now. To have an AGM, for snowmobiling, in June, it's a huge challenge to engage people because the season is behind them. Here we are, we're going into the season, people are starting to think about it, so they come out."

This year's HCSA AGM focused strongly on volunteers, recognition which Enright said was a highlight.

"If you're not handing someone a pay cheque, you'd better recognize them," he said. "So it was a love-in. It was like the Emmys, the Oscars, the Grammys.'

The HCSA has a platoon of volunteers and needs an army, said Enright, but he noted the volunteers are exceptional.

"We have people who do things for us just because they want to do it," he said. He made note of a group on Kennisis Lake who do the work of staking the lake every 100 metres to

"They just go out and do it, they never want a pat on the back," he said. "There's so much of that, that's just one of 100 examples."

"Trailside heroes" were celebrated with "ELMO" awards, so named for Elmo Lymburner, the association's most senior groomer operator who has 35 years' experience.

"Every business has frontline workers," said an announcement on the HCSA Facebook page. "Meet the boys of winter, the HCSA grooming crew. Each and every one of them is an award winner. They never quit, never stop trying, are out there in all kinds of weather in the middle of nowhere, so we can go somewhere."

The Elmo award for groomer-operator of the year was awarded to Ted Roberts and Brian Howe. The rookie of the year award to Noah Black, who was noted to take "the job on with so much enthusiasm and willingness."

Tom Nicholson, secretary/treasurer and manager of the HCSA building, was acknowledged this year with a Long Service

Liz Jesseman was celebrated for "working so hard to show thousands the way around Haliburton on a snowmobile," managing signs on the trails.

"She is a lady who pretty much singleandedly put up trail signs to province dards on our 370 kilometres of trails," said Enright. "Every curve, every bump, every stop sign, every speed limit, a one-woman

Jesseman is stepping down from that role after about a decade, but will still be with HCSA as an advisor and coach.

Enright himself was honoured with the HCSA Volunteer of the Year award for his work as the association's media spokesperson, social media coordinator and "map guy." His accomplishments include regular

radio spots and coverage of Haliburton trails in the Globe and Mail.

"His witty humour has earned him the reputation of a guy who walks the walk and is always available for a chat," read the announcement. "His accomplishments with the club are numerous and his tireless efforts are appreciated."

Enright said he was humbled that his peers would choose him as Volunteer of the Year, especially because he said he knows others who have been awarded, and how much they

"To be included in that group is a real wow." he said.

As for the snowmobiling season, Enright said the HCSA is feeling really good about

"The buzz at the HCSA is, we are going to have a really good year," he said. "We feel good about snowmobiling this winter. I mean, we feel good about it every winter b especially this winter. Talk about a COVIDfriendly, socially distanced activity. Like, everyone's wearing helmets and visors, so there's the mask, and they're all apart."

Next year, the HCSA will mark 50 years, an anniversary Enright said they're ramping

To learn more or get involved, visit the Haliburton County Snowmobiling Association group on Facebook or contact the group at info@hcsa.ca.



Capturing Eden: Ontario Retail Cannabis Store Large variety of accessories and apparel

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Cell, internet service presents 'stumbling block' for business

by JENN WATT

Editor

The Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce is stable, with strong membership retention, executive director Jennifer Locke told the membership at the organization's annual general meeting held via Zoom online conferencing app on Sept. 15.

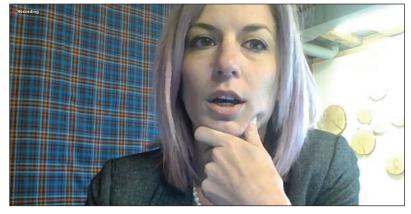
She highlighted the success of the first women's event with 110 people attending, several lunch-and-learns and the benefits members receive.

However, the 2019-2020 year has also included COVID-19-related challenges, starting with the cancellation of the annual gala event, which resulted in a loss of revenues for

Financial statements presented showed a deficit of \$9,677, "which can be clearly seen between the difference in what would normally be received from revenue on the gala and the offset of expenses expected for the gala," board member and treasurer Greg Hebert told the membership. He also noted a change in the way memberships are calculated, leading to a lower value in that line for the year ending March 31, 2020, despite membership numbers and retention being up.

Locke said the chamber is looking for ways to serve the membership during the pandemic, and asked for input.

"We just put out one of three micro-surveys from the Ontario Chamber of Commerce, designed to give us a broad brush idea of where levels of business confidence are at so this is important if you're a for-profit entity or a non-profit



Jennifer Locke, executive director of the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce, speaks during the organization's annual general meeting on Sept. 15. The meeting was held via videoconferencing app Zoom and included presentations by president Andrea Strano, treasurer Greg Hebert, and guests Sue Bowe of Wildfire Wisdom and Richard Ovcharovich from the HKPR District Health Unit. / Screenshot

entity," she said. "We need the data. And if we get more than 50 responses, we're going to get that data specific to our chamber.'

She noted that businesses are being affected by poor internet access in some areas, and thanked Conservative MP Jamie Schmale for joining the AGM to hear concerns.

"Cellular and internet infrastructure continues to be a stumbling block," Locke said, "and has presented new challenges during COVID-19. Our system is being bogged down with loads that we've never seen before with remote learning and working. And we have multiple generations of families being affected now and countless lost economic opportunities."

Board president Andrea Strano told the membership that heading into next year, the chamber will be focusing on collaboration and partnerships "opening new virtual channels of promotion and community building for our membership, increasing our reach across the community, supporting the implementation of technology in the workplace - mental health is a topic of concern – and [continuing the collaborative] effort on the BuyCloseBy project, introducing new valueadded benefits from the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and the Canadian Chamber of Commerce and putting together a non-profit succession plan for our chamber.'

Board members for the year to come include Andrea Strano, Greg Hebert, Patrick Louch, Joe Cox, Lisa Tompkins, Rob Berthelot, Emily Keller, Jennifer Morrow, Mark Bell, Melissa Valentini, and Simon Payn. Terms are eight years.

The business of the meeting was followed by presentations by Sue Bowe of Wildfire Wisdom and Richard Ovcharovich from the HKPR District Health Unit.









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INOTHERWORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor



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A different summer

CHAD INGRAM

Reporter

N LABOUR DAY weekend I was sitting by the lake at the cottage watching the sunset with my dad, who is a retired school principal.

He was talking about how on Labour Day weekends throughout his working years, after spending the summer at the cottage, he would sit by the lake and wonder what things might look like in a year's time. And while he's been retired for a number of years now, it's been a ritual he's continued to practise. He said a year

ago he never could have imagined that in 12 months' time, we'd be living through a global pandemic, one that continues to stretch on and on.

This week, Thursday, to be exact, will mark six months since Premier Doug Ford declared a state of emergency in Ontario due to the coronavirus. Half a year,

coronavirus. Half a year, but a period I'm going to wager feels like much longer to many of us.

Next week marks the official end of summer. It's been a different and bizarre summer, well, everywhere, including in the Haliburton Highlands. Most of the events and festivities that typically take place in the community throughout the summer months were cancelled, with others going online in virtual manifestations. That will continue to be the case throughout the fall and thereafter.

It was a different summer and it will be a different winter, too. Thanks to traffic counts at municipal landfills, we can deduce that seasonal residents in some parts of the county were up earlier in the year and stayed for more prolonged periods than usual. Perhaps some of them will stay into the cool season. We also know that many of the county's year-round residents who are snowbirds are unlikely to be going very far this winter. So, theoretically, it could mean there will be more people than usual in the county this winter, which, theoretically, could provide a silver lining for some local businesses.

As I write this, the province is reporting its highest numbers of new, confirmed daily cases of COVID-19 since June, and there is continued apprehension as students return to school in a staggered format. Calls for the province to revert to Stage 2 of

its COVID-19 economic recovery process seem to be growing, as many fear a second wave of the virus and reversion to the type of lockdown we saw in March and April.

Ontario Health Minister Christine Elliott points out on social media that the vast majority of new daily cases are coming

out of Toronto, Peel and Ottawa, and that a number of public health units continue to report no new cases. At press time, the numbers for Haliburton County remain that we've had 15 confirmed cases of COVID-19 since the pandemic began, all of which are considered resolved, and no deaths associated with the virus.

If the province does begin to again increase restrictions, it does make sense that it employs a regional approach that treats rural areas that have shown low numbers differently than urban ones that have continued to show high numbers.

And for us as individuals, while it's long become tedious and tiresome, it makes sense for us to continue to practise the big three: keep your distance from others, wear a mask in indoor public settings, and wash your hands.



Hello, grasshopper /JENN WATT Staff

Legs and the upland hunter

F THERE ARE good things about having short legs, I have yet to discover them.

Sure, on the surface there are some apparent advantages. For instance, you always have leg room in any car you sit in. And, yes, you never hit your head on a door jam. And, it's true, you are among the last to feel the rain. And so it goes.

But all this is countered by the many, many disadvantages. I'm talking about the need for a parachute in order to descend

safely from a bar stool. Or the fact that you require a step ladder to change a light bulb on a table lamp. Or that you are always the first to smell a fart on an elevator.

Which is to say, all things considered, I'd rather have long legs.

Long legs are exactly what a serious upland bird hunter needs.

This is mostly because an upland hunter needs to cover ground – and most times it is rough ground. Plus, 90 per cent of any upland outing involves stepping over things such as downed logs, small beaver runs, mud puddles, and the bird that is about to startle the hell out of you.

All those things are better served with long legs. But the best reason for having long legs is that it makes hunting in a tall grass meadow after an early morning dew or rainfall far less embarassing.

I was reminded of that this morning after a quick opening day jaunt through upland cover in a dew-soaked field edge. By the time I had hunted the cover thoroughly by crisscrossing through it, the field was no longer wet, not due to the rising sun so much as the sponge-like absorption capa-

bilities of my hunting pants.

By the time I got on the trail towards my vehicle a high-water mark was clearly evident on my hunting pants. And it reached midway up my zipper. It was so bad, I could have been in an adult diaper commercial.

And I couldn't help but observe, had I been leggier, that waterline would have been around my mid-thighs.

If you think this is not a big deal, you have never stepped in a house and been confronted by your partner or kids who live

for just such an event.

Typically, the sight of soaked pants from mid-zipper down prompts them to break into squeals of glee and then causes either party to ask "So how big was the bear?"

And then they yuck it up and try to get you to pose for Instagram.

If you are really having a good day, the neighbours will also get in on the fun when they

see you hanging those water-lined hunting pants from the clothesline.

Then they will also ask what animal caused the "accident."

Needless to say, all of them are teasing. If they really thought you ran into a bear, they would have quietly checked out the back of your pants first.

The point of this is that dew or rain-soaked tall grass is a non-issue for a person with longer legs. Instead, they basically step through the mid-thigh high grass without incident. And when they get home no one makes a fuss out of the waterline that is evident on their pants.

Unless of course, you are good at hiding on the trail and growling convincingly.



STEVE GALEA *Beyond 35*

INOTHERWORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

Cottage country facing change?

THE ANNUAL LULL after the storm of summer visitors to cottage country doesn't seem to have materialized as fully as in past years. Lake access parking lots still hold plenty of vehicles. Town and village streets remain relatively busy. Post Labour Day traffic hasn't lightened as much as might be expected.

More people seem to be lingering this year. Perhaps it's the weather, or maybe it's a result of COVID-19.

If the latter, I'm wondering whether we will see some dramatic changes in the future of cottage country.



JIM POLING SR. From Shaman's Rock

The COVID pandemic brought some changes with its late winter appearance. Concerned people bailed out of cities to head north and take refuge in cottages. Many were retirees, especially concerned because the virus was affecting older people more than others.

Then businesses began closing to lessen spreading the infection, leaving some folks out of work, others forced to work from home. Many of them found themselves free to move to cottages while waiting for the virus threat to pass.

The virus prevented people from travelling very far. In some cases, money saved from cancelled travel

went into making cottages more comfortable, or had people out looking for cottages to rent or buy.

COVID aside, more people in general are yearning for an escape from modern realities and a return to nature, a simpler past and slower and safer lifestyle. The Wall Street Journal reported in July that 39 per cent of urban dwellers in the United States are thinking about moving to rural areas because of the pandemic and the increasing chaos of urban life.

You can find more evidence of this on the internet where the hashtag #cottagecore is driving millions of searches for old-fashioned cozy cottage lifestyles.

Perhaps all this is temporary, just a panic-twinged reaction to the chaotic events of 2020. When COVID is controlled and memories of other chaos begin to fade, most people perhaps will settle into the life they had before 2020.

However, if the interest in rural and cottage country living continues, and more and more people opt for it, the changes will be dramatic. There will be benefits, as well as disadvantages.

More population means strain on services, including hospitals, policing and various utilities. More strain will require more staffing, which could bring more extensive medical care and other servicing.

Population growth also will spur more business activity, which will require more employment. More people mean more homes, more building, more renovations and therefore more construction-related jobs.

Larger populations also bring the problems that many urban dwellers now would like to leave behind – crowding, crime, horrendous traffic and pollution.

Some people will favour any change. Others will be unhappy with disruption of life as they have known it.

Whatever happens, whether it be small or huge, there will be change. It is inevitable, as we have seen in the past.

My introduction to cottaging a long time ago was to one-room cabins built of logs hewn by hand and with spaces stuffed with moss to keep out critters and cold. Water came from pails hauled from the lake, and light came from coal oil lamps.

That was in northwestern Ontario where cottages were (and still are) called

Those very basic cottages, or camps, have evolved into mega-cottages with modern electrical or gas appliances and electronic gadgets that connect us to the

The world evolves, and evolution naturally brings changes. We can't avoid changes to many of the physical aspects of cottage country. But what we can protect from change is the most important and most valued part of cottage life – the cottage country state of mind.

The cottage always has been a place to take a mental break from urban life. It's the place where simple things like the call of a loon or the breeze rustling tree branches remind us that nature is our most precious asset.

Nature is our greatest teacher. It reminds us who we really are and what our place really is in the greater scheme of things. It is constantly showing us what is right and what is wrong.

Every teacher needs a well-equipped classroom, and nature's classroom is cottage country.

letters to the editor

Time to revisit airport funding

Re: "Dailloux pitches sale of Stanhope Airport," Minden Times, Sept. 9, 2020

If the airport is ever sold it will never be used as an airport because it is clearly not an economically viable business. A \$100,000 loss per year is pretty steep to provide a facility for the occasional recreational pilot. For the township to continue to maintain the airport the function of the Ministry of Natural Resources at the site would need to be vital enough to justify it. Before you know it you have burned through

enough town money to build a new swimming pool and you know that facility would actually be used by quite a large number of residents. It's seven years since the last marketing study was done. Sometimes a business decision needs to be made to stop throwing good money after bad and it is too easy to let taxpayer money to drain away for another year hoping for some miracle to happen that is never going to arrive.

> Larry Bukta Minden

The floor is your friend

LAURIE SWEIG

Practical Fitness

ANY OF MY clients are still working from home. Many of them are commenting on muscle soreness and overall stiffness. It's sad to say but that totally makes sense. Gone are the built-in opportunities to walk throughout the day. For many, the walk to work now is just

a few paces. Going out for lunch isn't an easy option. There's no wandering to another office to ask a coworker a question. Sure, we could set an alarm to get up and move. That is great practice but sometimes it gets discarded for an important email conversation. That's where sitting on the floor comes in.

At this very moment I am sitting on the floor typing away on my laptop. For a few minutes I

have it on my lap. When that becomes uncomfortable I move it to the floor in front of me. That's the beauty of sitting on the floor. Getting too comfortable isn't an option.

When we sit in chairs we fidget every few minutes to change positions but the change is limited; the right angle at our hips that sitting creates pretty much stays the same. That combined with our legs being together or crossed causes a whole bunch of limitations that if you don't feel them yet you will in the future.

Get down to the floor. That in itself is a great thing to do on a daily basis. Think about all the muscles that come into play to get you down there and back up again. Every day that you do it, it will get easier. Once you're sitting on the floor try these different positions:

• Sit* with your legs together straight out in front of you. Flex your feet and push your knees into the floor as you lean forward with a straight back. How does that

• Move your legs as wide apart as you can. Flex your feet, push your knees into the

floor and lean forward again with a straight back.

> • Move into the 90/90 position (search for this one on the internet if you're not familiar with it).

• Then sit cross legged. Be sure to alternate which foot is pulled in first. If you're like me, one way is more comfortable than the other. I'm trying to even myself out.

*Do not lean against any-

thing. That is cheating. You won't gain as much mobility if you do that as you would by sitting unassisted.

It is possible to type on a laptop in every one of those positions. The 90/90 version might be a challenge for some (as it is for me). Give them all a try. Don't limit it to the workday. Try it while you're watching TV, reading or scrolling through your device. Start with a short period of time and build up from there. The long-term benefits far outweigh the short-term discomfort.

Something to think about.

Laurie Sweig is a certified personal fitness trainer and spinning instructor. She owns and operates The Point for Fitness. She can be reached at laurie@thepointforfitness.com.

Nonfic pic - September



Everything Chocolate from America's Test Kitchen Make your decadent dreams come true with this chocolate-covered collection of more than 200 foolproof recipes that showcase the treasured dessert ingredient – from delicious morning baked goods and pick-me-up treats to rich after-dinner delights for special occasions.

Chocolate may be the most universally loved (and craved) flavouring in the world, and Everything Chocolate is the definitive guide to any sweet treat you can imagine that features it, for any time of day. Wake up with streusel-topped chocolate-walnut muffins that are easy to make, or professionalgrade chocolate croissants when weekend time allows. Pack lunches with pleasing milk chocolate

revel bars or serve magic chocolate flan cake or chocolate pavlova

with berries and whipped cream after dinner. The sky's the limit, and the full range of chocolate recipes is right here at your fingertips. Check out Everything Chocolate from HCPL today, and bake up a little chocolate love.





Addie Sisson starts her first day of senior kindergarten at Archie Stouffer with a big



hand and ready," said his mom, Amanda.



Easton Clement began his first day of Emery Bagshaw started Grade 8 and Kelson Bagshaw began Grade 3 senior kindergarten at ASES, "mask on at ASES. Grandma Linda Schrader said they liked their new teachers and had a great day.





Violet started senior kindergarten at ASES and "loved every minute of it."



Rayah Garbutt was excited to go back to school to start Grade 5 and see all of her friends.



Memphis Switzer had his first not-back-to-school day last week, and harvested sunflowers including this whopper, which stood 11.9 feet tall.

Superintendent discusses challenges of bus route planning in 2020

by JENN WATT

Editor

Bus driver shortages have posed issues for schools across the province and at Trillium Lakelands District School Board the superintendent of business services said it's not yet clear whether there will be busing issues locally.

During the board of trustees meeting on Sept. 8, superintendent Tim Ellis said bus routing was originally done in May, and with re-registration numbers changing so much in recent weeks, routing is currently being updated.

Ellis said he could foresee two scenarios, one where the reduction in students attending classes in school buildings meant fewer drivers were needed, and another in which some drivers decide the new work environment with COVID-19 protocols was not suitable

"As we know that we have roughly 2,000 children that are not opting in to go to schools [instead choosing to learn at home], that means the amount of children that need to be picked up is going to drop a significant chunk, which may mean the ability for us to consolidate some routes, which may reduce the requirement to find more drivers," Ellis

"On the other hand," he continued, "we are at 25 per cent of our elementary students [who] attended school today [Sept. 8]. As we ramp up to 100 per cent, some of the drivers might get that overwhelming feeling, particularly with the enhanced procedures that we are asking of them in terms of hand sanitizing and things like that, so we may also see a few more resignations coming down the pipe."

On the first day back to school, 12 routes have driver shortages, Ellis said, particularly in the Muskoka part of the

"We are working with the providers to see what they can do about shoring up their lineup," he said.

During the week of Sept. 8 to 11, elementary students were returning to school in phases. About 15 per cent of students across TLDSB have chosen to learn from home, with a virtual school starting the week of Sept. 21.

In his report on the 2019-2020 school year, Ellis told trustees that transportation services had contracted 337 vehicles, moving 13,350 students across the district, which is more than 11,500 square kilometres. The average ride time for students in the last school year was 24 minutes with less than two per cent of students having a ride longer than an hour. His report explained that those who are on a bus for more than an hour either live very far from a school or have chosen to attend a school other than their home school.

The average distance an elementary school student walked to a bus stop in 2019-2020 was 240 metres; for secondary students, that average was 370

Last year there were 25 minor accidents "which were primarily minor collisions with no major injuries to any students. Bus operators continue to be diligent in the delivery of defensive driving and accident avoidance training as required in their contract with the board," the report says.

Bus cancellations were fewer in winter of 2019 than in the year previous with only one for Haliburton, down from eight in 2018.

Rumours of 100s of cottagers enrolling in local schools overblown: director

by JENN WATT

Editor

A rumour that 300 students from cottaging households had registered in Haliburton schools this fall was an inflated number, the school board's director of education said at a meeting last

Asked by Trillium Lakelands District School Board's Haliburton trustee Gary Brohman for updated numbers, Wesley Hahn said he would look into it, but that the number Brohman had heard wasn't accurate.

'No, those numbers are quite inflated. We were looking at those numbers and we'll have a better idea, but not nearly that many. We've heard that rumour kind of floating around before, but that

isn't necessarily where we are right now, but we'll bring an accurate number for you, if we can get that," Hahn said during the trustees' committee of the whole meeting on Sept. 8.

Following the meeting, a spokesperson for the school board told the Times that TLDSB doesn't have a way of counting students from seasonal residences versus students from year-round households.

"There have been no significant increases across the board in terms of enrolment," Sinead Fegan emailed in response to a question from the Times. "We do not collect data to determine if a student is a seasonal resident, so would have no way to answer that question."

With files from Sue Tiffin

Reopening schools safely matters to everyone

That's why the government of Ontario has worked with health officials, school boards and educators to develop a comprehensive plan to keep kids and staff safe.

- · Physical distancing measures will be implemented such as desk separation, signs, floor markings and one-way hallways.
- Face coverings will be required for staff and students in Grades 4-12.
- · Hand hygiene will be enabled with hand sanitizer and hand washing.
- More nurses will be in schools.
- School cleaning will be enhanced.





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TLDSB virtual schools start Monday

by SUE TIFFIN Times Staff

While many elementary and high school students are returning to schools in the county this week, those who have opted out of in-person classes by enrolling in the TLDSB Learning@Home Elementary School and TLDSB Learning@ Home Secondary School are preparing to return full-time beginning next Monday.

Trillium Lakelands District School Board said there was no way to avoid a delay in their TLDSB Learning@Home Elementary School and TLDSB Learning@Home Secondary School virtual school roll-out. Teachers are introducing themselves this week, with full-time school beginning Sept. 21.

"We are currently staffing for classes and developing timetables and schedules for students," said Sinead Fegan, TLDSB communications officer. "Classroom teachers will be contacting families between Sept. 14 to 17 to provide more information about scheduling and expectations for learning at home. Students will take part in an online meeting using Google Meet on Sept. 18, with full online learning beginning Sept. 21. For secondary students participating in at-home remote learning, there will not be classes between Sept. 8 to 15. Students will receive timetables by Sept. 14. Full at-home remote learning will then start for all students, Grade 9 to 12, on Sept. 16."

For the elementary online program, TLDSB needs 99.2 full-time equivalency teachers. Approximately 75 teachers have been moved from schools in the TLDSB region for these roles, with Fegan saying there is a need to hire 24.5 full-time equivalency teachers as of Sept. 14. The secondary online program needs 214 sections filled, and has moved 155 sections from home schools, with a need to hire 59 more sections, equal to about 10 full-time equivalency teachers.

On Sept. 4, days before the traditional school start of Sept. 8, parents with students in elementary school received an email from TLDSB greeting Learning@Home families. It noted that Tanya Fraser, who will be responsible for Grade 4 to 12, and Leslie Wright, who will be responsible for kindergarten to Grade 3, are "the proud principals of this newly being-created school," and told parents, "Classes have not been created yet because not all the hiring is completed." "There will be a staggered start so school will not be starting on Sept. 8th," read the email. "Once hiring is completed and classes formed (this may take a few more days), your child's teacher will contact you to introduce themselves and learn more about your child and family."

The Sept. 4 email also said, "School is to officially start Sept. 18th if we have all needed technology available and in your hands." It told parents to stay tuned for further messaging the following week.

"We ask for your patience and understanding as we go through this monumental transition during unprecedented circumstances," it read. "We are confident that your child will have a valuable educational experience this year because we have gathered an amazing and talented staff so far.'

Parents next received an email from the board on Sept. 9,

for at-home learning." The update said classroom teachers would be contacting families between Sept. 14 to 17 "to provide more information about scheduling and expectations for learning at home." Students are to take part in an online meeting using Google Meet with their teacher on Sept. 18, with full online learning beginning Sept. 21.

"Your patience and understanding is appreciated," said the

The Fenelon Falls Secondary School administration team, including principal Don MacIver, vice-principal Christa Bradburn and vice-principal Martin Gage, is responsible for the secondary school.

The TLDSB virtual school is designed to run from 8:45 a.m. to 3 p.m. "Students are assigned to a teacher and are expected to take part in a 300-minute learning day, which will include a blend of synchronous and independent learning," Fegan said. "Like in class learning, secondary school students will adopt a block schedule, allowing students to concentrate on one credit at a time."

There are three options for virtual learning: one in which a student logs in to synchronous learning activities led by a teacher and engages in small group or independent learning throughout the day; one in which a student opts out of synchronous learning but has access to the lessons, teacher and community classroom; and one in which students opt of using technology and instead receive paperwork via parent email or snail mail delivery system, which does not include lessons but instead regular check-ins with an assigned educator.

"Students are expected to be available and in attendance for all synchronous learning activities," said Fegan. "Teachers will share a regular timetable of synchronous activities with students and families. The expectation for synchronous learning is 180 minutes per day for kindergarten students, 225 minutes per day for Grades 1 to 8, and 225 minutes per day for Grades 9 to 12, taking a full course schedule (up to 60 minutes for each class)."

The Toronto District School Board has also delayed their virtual school start, from a start that would have coincided with the in-person school start on Sept. 15, to Sept. 22, at first citing timetable and staffing finalization, and most recently noting that a major shift in student population - with an additional 6,000 students opting for remote learning rather than in-person learning - happening in the last week.

That same student registration shift has not occurred at

"At the re-registration deadline of Aug. 17, we had 650 secondary students and 1,900 elementary students enrolled in online learning," said Fegan. "Since then, our numbers are now close to 2,000 elementary students and 700 secondary students. Please note, some of this was due to the survey not reaching all families. In these cases, we had to reach out to them directly via phone."

Changes have also been made to in-person learning, with

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noting the school "is currently preparing staffing assignments" a staggered start being introduced so that all students were not returning full-time on the same day; mandatory masks for students in kindergarten to Grade 3, outside of provincial requirements for those in Grade 4 and older to wear masks and a change in the schedule for high school learning to a block schedule, in which students learn one subject at a time.

> For more information about the TLDSB virtual schools, visit the board's Return to School webpage or contact the school at info.lhe@tldsb.on.ca. The TDLSB Learning@ Home Elementary School website is available here: https:// lhe.tldsb.on.ca/ The TLDSB Learning@Home Secondary School website is still being developed.



Students are assigned to a teacher and are expected to take part in a 300-minute learning day, which will include a blend of synchronous and independent learning.

— SINEAD FEGAN









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Tracking COVID-19 in schools

by SUE TIFFIN Times Staff

Parents and caregivers, as well as Ontarians in general, concerned about confirmed COVID-19 cases in class or at daycare will be able to track outbreaks of the virus at schools and child care centres across the province on a new website launched by the provincial government on Sept. 11. The site shares information about COVID-19 cases of students and staff in Ontario schools and child care centres by 10:30 a.m. each weekday. On the day of its launch, 13 schools across the province were reporting confirmed cases of the virus.

"The premier and our government made a promise to parents, that we would ensure that they would have access to the same information that we have," said a joint statement released Sept. 11 by Minister of Education Stephen Lecce and Peter Bethlenfalvy, president of the treasury board and minister responsible for the Ontario Digital Service. "Over the last several weeks, we have been working with the Ministry of Health, the Ontario Digital Service and public health authorities, to ensure a rapid and transparent exchange of local COVID-19 data."

opposition New Democratic Party had asked the Ford government to commit to posting an online list of all schools with COVID-19 cases, while maintaining student and staff privacy. "Of course we all hope that COVID-19

doesn't make its way into schools, but we believe parents, students and staff including supply teachers should be informed if it does," said Marit Stiles, NDP education critic. "With so much pressure being put on staff, students and their families to monitor symptoms and follow protocols, they deserve information and transparency."

The NDP had also pushed for an online listing of long-term care homes with COVID-19 cases and outbreaks. Long-term care and retirement homes have seen numerous outbreaks since the beginning of the pandemic, with almost 6,000 confirmed cases in Ontario reported to be long-term care residents, 2,657 cases reported as a health-care worker associated with long-term care outbreaks and 1,825 of the province's 2,813 deaths reported as being long-term care home residents or staff.

"The Ford government tried to downplay and hide the growing tragedy in long-term care homes as the virus swept in," said Stiles. "We can't let them make the same mistake with our children.

Ford announced the new school and child care website reporting on Sept. 9.

"I think it's so important that we report every single case as we did with long-term care," Ontario Premier Doug Ford told reporters at a news conference last week. "We'll do the same in school."

Locally, the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit will continue providing updates on the number of confirmed cases through its own website, while school

The school board will need to balance the need to protect the privacy of individuals with determining how information will be shared beyond. Once we have this determined, we will let our school communities know our process.

— SINEAD FEGAN



boards and schools are required to have a COVID-19 advisory section on their website where information about confirmed cases will be posted. The health unit is encouraging parents and caregivers to visit their local health unit website for updated information and links to the school board reopening plans as information is being updated regularly.

"Based on the operational guidance from the ministry, an outbreak is defined as two or more confirmed cases in students and/or staff with an epidemiological link, within a 14-day period, where at least one case would have reasonably acquired the infection in the school," said Chandra Tremblay of the health unit, noting: "There may be situations where a staff or student tests positive for COVID-19, but the exposure was not in the school and an outbreak is not declared."

Parents have been asked to commit to screen daily for symptoms within their family prior to sending their children to school.

The Trillium Lakelands District School Board has been working with local public health units in creating the return to school plans. Elementary students across the district who are attending in-person have had staggered starts with both elementary and secondary school students returning back to school full-time this week.

"TLDSB has been working with local health units throughout the COVID-19 pandemic," said Sinead Fegan, TLDSB communications officer. "The return to school plans for both staff and for students were reviewed by public health prior to publishing and sharing. However, student illness and COVID-19 outbreak protocols were developed after receiving information from the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health on Aug.

Fegan said on Sept. 10 the school board was working with local health units to "determine exactly who will receive information and when," in relation to confirmed cases of COVID-19 in schools. "Typically if there is a confirmed case of COVID-19, the health unit will know this first (due to receiving testing results)," she said of the reporting process. "Public health will then be responsible for contacting all those who have been in contact with individuals with COVID-19. Schools will assist public health with this contact tracing. The school board will need to balance the need to protect the privacy of individuals with determining how information will be shared beyond. Once we have this determined, we will let our school communities know our process."

Though parents and volunteers are not being granted access to school buildings right now, Fegan said anyone who does enter TLDSB schools and buses, including bus drivers, teachers, school staff and students, must do a daily health assessment.

"If they have any of the symptoms on the health assessment chart, they are not to ride a bus or attend at a school, they are to follow instructions on the Ministry of Health COVID-19 assessment page, and not return to school or ride a bus until there are no symptoms," she said.

Though parents and caregivers have expressed concern related to students having the symptoms of seasonal allergies or colds and flu at this time of year, Fegan clarified: "All students, staff, and essential visitors who have any of the symptoms persisting for more than a few hours, and for whom the symptoms are new and not related to seasonal allergies or pre-existing medical conditions, must stay home, and should be tested for COVID-19 if advised to do so by a medical professional."

Should someone become ill while at school, they will be isolated - students being supervised with a staff member wearing full PPE – and either go directly home, if staff, or wait to be picked up by a guardian. The area where the person has isolated, as well as the classroom, will then be disinfected.

"We know that seasonal flu and colds persist at this time of the year, however if the person's symptoms relate to COVID-19 symptoms on the health assessment chart, then this will be reported to the health unit and the school will follow direction from public health at that point," said Fegan.

Public health would determine at what point an entire class would be quarantined, or a school would be closed, with schools reporting each day the number of absences to the board and to the Ministry of Education.

"This will be closely monitored," said

The TLDSB community is asked to continue to monitor the board's Return to School

"We expect there will be ongoing updates as new information arrives and we update our documents," said Fegan. "We know this is a challenging time for everyone involved. If any family needs assistance, please contact the school. We appreciate everyone's patience and understanding.'

As of Sept. 14, there were no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Haliburton County, with 15 cases previously listed as being resolved. On its launch on Sept. 11, the new school and child care centre case tracking website had listed, of 4,828 schools that were reopening, 13 current school-related cases - four students and nine staff - in schools in Ottawa, Pickering, Oakville, Brampton, Mississauga and Waterloo. Of 5,500 licensed child care centres in Ontario and more than 120 licensed home child care agencies in Ontario, 56 of them have seen COVID-19 cases - 30 children and 26 staff - with 18 centres closing and 64 homes closing. As of Sept. 14, 44,817 cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed in Ontario, with 39,974 of those cases resolved. The province reported 313 cases on Sept. 14.

Public schools closed in Ontario on March 13, as the novel coronavirus first began to spread across Ontario. In the TLDSB region, 15 per cent of students opted to study virtually through the board's online program, which has been delayed in beginning and is expected to start Sept. 21.

For more information about local cases visit www.hkpr.on.ca.

For more information about COVID-19 cases in schools and child care centres visit www.ontario.ca/page/covid-19-casesschools-and-child-care-centres.

Sudoku brought to you by

LISA MERCER **BROKER**

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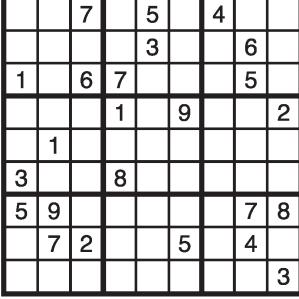
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Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put vour sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 4

Board sees spike in male elementary student suspensions in 2019-2020

Despite the 2019-2020 school year being cut short, with COVID-19 precautionary closures beginning March 13, 2020, more than 1,100 suspensions were issued across the Trillium Lakelands District School Board.

Numbers were presented to school board trustees at their committee of the whole meeting on Sept. 8.

The top three reasons for suspensions were conduct injurious to well being, conduct injurious to moral tone and code of conduct

"There are a total of 1,149 suspensions occurred and that's represented by 1,064 students, so that we're only counting students' names once with a total number of days being 3,397," said Dave Golden, superintendent of learning. Twelve students were expelled during the school year.

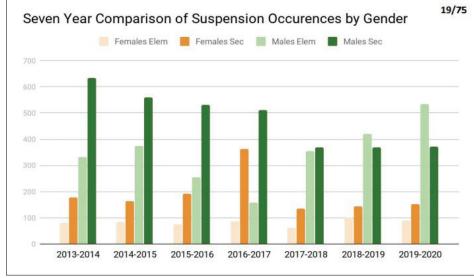
The previous school year, 2018-2019, 1,724 suspensions were issued, which was the highest number in a seven-year period. However, Golden reminded the board that three months of school were missed due to COVID-19 closures. Eight of the suspen-

sions in 2019-2020 were issued while school buildings were closed.

The number of male elementary students who received suspensions was highlighted by Golden as an area of specific concern. Even with the shorter in-school year, more than 500 suspensions were handed out to male elementary school students in 2019-2020. A chart presented at the meeting shows that number just above 400 in 2018-2019 and below 200 in the 2016-2017 school year, which was the lowest in the seven-year comparison. Male students far more commonly received suspensions than did female students.

"There is quite a large rise in the number of male elementary students as you can see in the 19-20 [bar graph] even taking off the number of months that we are [removing], it's still very high, the highest we've had in several years, so certainly a piece that we're going to be investigating further as to what we can do to make a difference in that area." Golden said.

Starting this year, there will be no more suspensions for students in junior kindergarten to Grade 3. Last year, 145 suspensions were issued to students in those grades.



A seven-year comparison of suspension occurrences by gender included in a report to school board trustees at the Trillium Lakelands District School Board meeting held Sept. 8 shows an increase over the past few years in the number of male elementary school students who received suspensions. /Slide from TLDSB report, Sept. 8.

Fifteen artists participating in The Studio Tour this fall

pating in The Studio Tour, the annual fall event in the Haliburton Highlands, taking place this year on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 3 and 4, 10 and 11.

"Every year brings a unique combination of artists and artisans who open their studio doors and invite you to see the vast array of beautiful, functional, thought-provoking or whimsiacal must-sees and must-haves," artist Jane Selbie wrote to the Times.

Visitors on the tour can expect to see acrylic painting, blown glass, fabric layering art, woodworking, fine jewelry, pottery,

Twelve studios with 15 artists are particiquilting, stained glass, and oil painting.

"In one enjoyable scenic drive, you can make a loop down country roads and byways to visit studios and fill your birthday, Christmas, anniversary or personal wish list," she said. "There is something for everyone at all price points. Commission requests are welcome.'

The Studio Tour is on Oct. 3, 4, 10, and 11 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Go to the studiotour. ca for more details.

Staff

COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT - NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING APPLICATION FOR MINOR VARIANCE THIS MEETING WILL BE HEARD AS AN ELECTRONIC HEARING BY WAY OF A TELECONFERENCE CALL

TAKE NOTICE THAT the Committee of Adjustment of the Township of Minden Hills will hold a Public Hearing on:

DATE:

LOCATION:

Monday, September 28, 2020 10:30 AM

Due to the physical distancing requirements imposed as a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting will be held as an electronic hearing by way of

a teleconference call. To participate:

Join the meeting by telephone by dialing either: 1-877-394-5901 or 416-548-6023 Enter Access Code: 7783570

to consider minor variance applications PLMV2020007, PLMV2020008, PLMV2020016, and PLMV2020022. The purpose of the Public Hearing will be to consider the proposed Minor Variances to the Township of Minden Hills Zoning By-law pursuant to Section 45 of the Planning Act. The minor variance applications being considered are listed below:

PLMV2020007 - Part of Lot 15, Concession 8, Geographic Township of Minden; municipally known as <u>1031 Jamieson Drive</u>; and located on Horseshoe Lake (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the construction of a new 44.6 m2 (480sq.ft.) detached garage measuring 4.2m. (13'9") in height as measured to midpoint of roof located 29m. (95') from the High Water Mark (HWM). The variance sought would allow for an increase in the maximum height of an accessory building located less than 45m. (147'8") from the HWM, which would otherwise be limited to 3.5m. (11'6")



PLMV2020008 - Part of Lot 26, Concession 7, Geographic Township of Minden; municipally known as <u>Vacant Land on Rays Lane</u>; and located on Kashagawigamog Lake (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the construction of a new 198.3 m2 (2,135sq.ft.) dwelling to be located 9.6m. (31'4") from the rear lot line. The variance sought would allow for a reduction from the required rear yard of 12m. (39'4") which is otherwise required.



PLMV2020016 - Part of Lot 12, Concession 13, Geographic Township of Minden; municipally known as 1024 Crest Drive; and located on Little Boshkung Lake (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the construction of a new 33.4 m2 (360sq.ft.) addition to the existing 62.4 m2 (672sq.ft.), non-complying, dwelling which is situated 10.7m. (35') from the High Water Mark (HWM). The variance sought would allow for a 54% increase in size whereas no increase is otherwise permitted for a dwelling located within 15m. (49'3") of the HWM.



PLMV2020022 - Part of Lot 12, Concession 13, Geographic Township of Minden; municipally known as <u>1162 Peterson Road</u>; and located on Little Boshkung Lake (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the construction of a new 2nd storey addition to the existing single storey, non-complying, dwelling which is situated 6.1m. (20'2") from the High Water Mark (HWM); and, the expansion of the same dwelling by way of the conversion of the existing covered porch into living space; and further, to permit a new 21.6 m2 (232sq.ft.) covered porch which is to project to a distance of 3.8m. (12'5") from the rear lot line. The variance sought would allow for an increase in height of 2.4m.



(8') whereas no increase is otherwise permitted; a reduction from the required rear yard of 12m. (39'4") which is otherwise required; and, to permit an increase in size and height of a dwelling located within 15m. (49'3") of the HWM.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION regarding these applications are available online at **www.mindenhills.ca/newsroom**. Copeis of the complete applications will be available for public inspection at the Township of Minden Hills Building and Planning Department by appointment only.

HAVE YOUR SAY: Input on the above noted applications is welcome and encouraged. You can provide input by speaking at the public meeting or by making a written submission to the Township. If you do not attend the public meeting, it may proceed in your absence and, except as otherwise provided in The Planning Act, you will not be entitled to any further notice in the proceedings

WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS: To provide input in writing, or to request written notice of the decision, please contact the undersigned or e-mail iclendening@mindenhills.ca.

ANY PERSON OR AGENCY WHO IS OF THE OPINION THAT HOLDING THE HEARING AS AN ELECTRONIC HEARING IS LIKELY TO CAUSE THEM SIGNIFICANT PREJUDICE, may make a submission to the undersigned, and if the Committee is satisfied that holding the hearing as an electronic hearing is likely to cause the party significant prejudice then the hearing will be re-scheduled as an oral hearing.

Interested parties are encouraged to join 15 minutes ahead of the scheduled start time.

If you are interested in participating in the hearing you are encouraged to contact the undersigned prior to the meeting date with any questions you may have and/or to provide any material for the Committee's consideration at the hearing.

ACCESSIBILITY: The Township of Minden Hills is committed to providing services as set out in the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005. If you have accessibility needs and require alternative formats or other accommodations, please contact the under-

PRIVACY DISCLOSURE: As one of the purposes of the Planning Act is to provide for planning processes that are open and accessible, all written submissions, documents, correspondence, e-mails or other communications (including your name and address) form part of the public record and may be disclosed/made available by the Township as deemed appropriate, including anyone requesting such information. Please note that by submitting any of this information, you are providing the Township with your consent to use and disclose this information as part of the planning process.

For more information about this matter contact iclendening@mindenhills.ca.

Ian Clendening, MPI., ACST Secretary-Treasurer, Committee of Adjustment P.O. Box 359, 7 Milne Street, Minden ON., K0M 2K0

REVIEW

Review of Long-Term Management Direction Bancroft-Minden Forest 2021-2031 Forest Management Plan

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), Bancroft Minden Forest Company (BMFC) and the Bancroft-Minden Local Citizens' Committee (LCC) invite you to review and comment on the proposed long-term management direction for the 2021-2031 Forest Management Plan (FMP) for the Bancroft-Minden Forest.

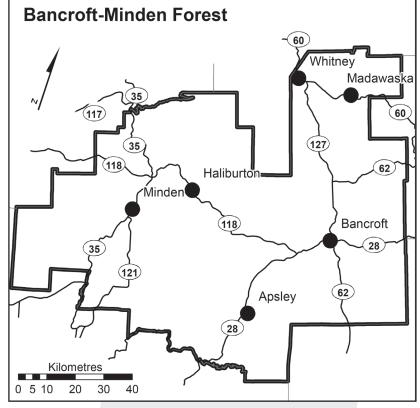
The Planning Process

The FMP takes approximately three years to complete. During this time, five formal opportunities for public consultation and First Nation and Métis community involvement and consultation are provided. The first opportunity (Stage One) for this FMP occurred on October 15, 2018 when the public was invited to "Participate" in the development of the plan. This 'Stage Two'

- · To invite you to review and comment on:
- the proposed long-term management direction for the forest;
- the areas which could reasonably be harvested, and the preferred areas for harvest operations, during the 10-year period of the plan.
- To request your contribution to background information to be used in planning.

How to Get Involved

To facilitate your review, a summary of the proposed long-term management direction for the forest can be obtained electronically on the Ontario government website www.ontario.ca/forestplans. A summary map(s) of the preferred and optional harvest areas for the 10-year period of the plan and alternative corridors for each new primary road which is required for the next 20 years will also be available electronically. In addition to the most current versions of the information and maps which were available at Stage One of public consultation,



the following information and maps will be available electronically:

- Draft First Nation and Métis Background Information Report (only if the First Nation and Métis community(ies) agree);
- · Summary of public comments and submissions received to date and any responses to those comments and submissions;

· A summary report of the results of the desired forest and benefits meeting;

- · Maps that portray past and approved areas of harvest operations for the current forest management plan and the previous 10 years;
- Criteria used for the identification of areas that could reasonably be harvested during the 10-year period of the plan;

• The rationale for the preferred areas for harvest;

Summary report of the activities of the local citizens' committee to date.

The above information can be made available electronically by contacting the Bancroft Minden Forest Company and/or MNRF, below, during normal office hours for a period of 30 days from September 15, 2020 - October 15, 2020.

Comments on the proposed long-term management direction for the Bancroft-Minden Forest must be received by Corinne Arthur of the planning team by October 15, 2020.

Remote meetings with representatives of the planning team and the LCC can be requested at any time during the planning process. Reasonable opportunities to remotely meet planning team members during non-business hours will be provided upon request. If you require more information or wish to discuss your interests and concerns with a planning team member, please contact one of the individuals listed below:

Corinne Arthur Regional Planning Forester

Bancroft Minden Forest Company **MNRF** tel: 613-332-6890 e-mail: svetlana@bmfci.ca tel: 705-313-3274 e-mail: corinne.arthur@ontario.ca

Bancroft-Minden Local Citizens' Committee (LCC) e-mail: mayor@southalgonquin.ca

During the planning process there is an opportunity to make a written request to seek resolution of issues with the MNRF District Manager or the Regional Director using a process described in the 2020 Forest Management Planning Manual (Part A, Section 2.4.1).

Svetlana Zeran

Stay Involved

There will be three more formal opportunities for you to be involved. These stages are listed and tentatively scheduled as follows:

Stage Three - Information Centre: Review of Proposed Operations Stage Four - Information Centre: Review of Draft Forest Management Plan Stage Five - Inspection of MNRF-Approved Forest Management Plan

January 2021 April 2021 August 2021

If you would like to be added to a mailing list to be notified of public involvement opportunities, please contact Jennifer Card, Resource Management Coordinator, at jennifer.card@ontario.ca.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) is collecting your personal information and comments under the authority provided by the Forest Management Planning Manual, 2020 approved by regulation under Section 68 of the Crown Forest Sustainability Act, 1994. Any personal information you provide (home and/or email address, name, telephone number, etc.) may be used and shared between MNRF and/or the sustainable forest licensee to contact you regarding comments submitted. Your comments will become part of the public consultation process and may be shared with the general public. Your personal information may also be used by the MNRF to send you further information related to this forest management planning exercise. If you have questions about the use of your personal information, please contact Shari MacDonald by e-mail: shari.macdonald@ontario.ca.



Land trust launches online auction

Bidding for the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust's Rock Our World online auction remains open this month until Tuesday, Sept. 22. The auction helps fundraise for the management and conservation work the charity does in Haliburton County.

The land trust manages several properties across the county, including the Dahl Forest, which is open to the public for hiking. The Barnum Creek Nature Reserve, located near Haliburton Village, is to open soon.

The auction includes handcrafted one-of-a-kind items and gift certificates for local dining, among other things.

Bidding takes place on Haliburton Highlands Land Trust's Facebook page.

New board chair

The land trust is welcoming new board chair Greg Wickware and thanking outgoing chair Mary-Lou Gerstl for her dedicated service.

Gerstl has been chair since 2016 and presided over several accomplishments including the acquisition of the 600acre Barnum Creek Nature Reserve property.

"Mary-Lou has been an excellent leader. Her passion for all species and their habitats and her dedication to protecting the environment are unparalleled. Mary-Lou made it her business to know everything about the workings of the land trust, from administrative details to grant applications. She was involved in almost every HHLT project and event," a press release from the land trust reads.

Wickware has been vice-chair of the board since 2017 and is a retired research scientist and expert in geomatics, the study of the earth's surface.

"Greg has facilitated a number of interesting and important U-Links/Trent University student research projects over the years. He has acted as an advisor and has supervised many students in the field at land trust properties and at their computers as they write up the results of their research," the press release says.

Wickware was also involved with the Barnum Creek acquisition with property owners Margaret and Leopoldina Dobrzensky.

Staff



Mary-Lou made it her business to know everything about the workings of the land trust, from administrative details to grant applications.

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

The following are brief reports of items discussed during a Sept. 9 Haliburton County committee-of-the-whole meeting.

More types of off-road vehicles will be permitted on roads owned by Haliburton County.

As county public works director Craig Douglas explained to councillors, the province has granted permission for municipalities to allow additional types of such vehicles on their roadways. ATVs, two-ups, sideby-sides and UTV are already permitted on county roads. "They've added two new vehicles – the extreme, or Argos – they have six or eight wheels – and off-road motorcycles," Douglas said.

Algonquin Highlands council had passed a resolution the week before permitting the additional vehicle types on its municipal roads.

"My biggest concern is just that we're consistent among the five municipalities [the county and its four lower tiers] so it's just

a little easier to know what the rules are," Douglas said.

"There's been a lot of confusion about this, specific classifications of what vehicles are and are not, and that's helpful [information] to ourselves and the public in this matter," said Minden Hills Mayor Brent Devolin, who added he'd be advocating that Minden Hills council pass the same resolution. "At this point, people have to break the law to get from one trail to the next one."

Reallocating funds for culverts

There are number of county-owned culverts that need replacing, and the county will reallocate funds from elsewhere in its roads budget to get a head start on some of the work scheduled for 2021.

"In 2021, we have a challenge, we have a lot of culverts in the county that need replacing," Douglas told councillors. "So staff feel the only solution, really, is to contract out some of the culvert replacements."

Douglas said the county had some money from a number of 2020 capital projects that had come in under budget.

"On average, we're coming in well under budget," he said, explaining he wanted to reallocate \$130,000 for the replacement of culverts on Livingstone Lake Road, getting that work underway this fall. The request was supported by councillors.

Hawk Lake bridge replacement

Replacement of the Hawk Lake Road bridge was scheduled to get underway as of Monday, Sept. 14, meaning some area residents who normally travel the road will need to use Braeloch Road as a detour.

Constructed in 1925, the bridge is ap-

proaching a century in age and has a number of issues including that it is currently weight-restricted, needs its barriers replaced, and that its deck is quite low, and at certain times of year, close to the surface of the Kennisis River, which it spans. The river, which connects the Hawk Lakes to Halls Lake, is part of the feeder system for the Trent Severn Waterway.

The federal government is funding half of the \$1.25-million project, with the province providing \$412,500 and the county \$212,500. The county's portion is coming from reserves, money that had initially been allotted for the bridge replacement in 2019.

IN SEASON, EVERY SEASON

NOTICE OF COMPLETE APPLICATION & PUBLIC MEETING PROPOSED ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT PLZBA2020025

TAKE NOTICE that the Township of Minden Hills has received a complete application to amend the Township's Zoning By-law No. 06-10 pursuant to Section 34 of the Planning Act, RSO 1990, Chpt. P. 13, as amended. The site specific amendment applies to property municipally known as **1009 October Trail** and located in Part of Lot 20, Concession 10, in the Geographic Township of Lutterworth (see Key Map below)

AND TAKE NOTICE that Council for The Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills will be holding a public meeting under Section 34 of the Planning Act. The purpose of the public meeting is to provide the public with an opportunity to understand and comment on the proposed Amendment.

PURPOSE AND EFFECT: The subject property is presently zoned Shoreline Residential (SR). The purpose of the zoning by-law amendment is to change the zoning to a site specific Shoreline Residential Exception Zone which would permit the proposed expansion of the existing, non-complying, dwelling. The effect of the amendment would permit the replacement of the existing 82 m2 (882.3sq.ft.) dwelling located at a distance of 13.8m. (45'3") from the High Water Mark (HWM) with a new 183.9 m2 (1979.5sq.ft.) to be relocated to a distance of 15m. (49'3") from the HWM. The site specific exception zone would also recognize a reduced setback of 1.2m. (3'11") from the watercourse running



along the north property line and 2.16m. (7'1") from the private right-of-way in order to accommodate the proposed re-development. A Holding (H) provision is proposed to apply to the property which is to permit only existing uses until right-of-way issues on the property are addressed.

DATE AND LOCATION OF PUBLIC MEETING - PLZBA2020025

Date: Thursday, October 8, 2020

Time: 9:00 AM

Location: This public meeting will be held as a virtual meeting using a ZOOM Webinar format.

Join the meeting using a computer or smart phone at:

www.tinyurl.com/y2e5vev7
Passcode: 4869237011
Join the meeting by telephone by dialing either:

1-778-907-2071
Webinar ID: 856 4554 4797 Passcode: 4869237011

During the meeting, select "raise hand" on your computer or dial *9 to indicate you would like to be placed in queue to provide your comments for Council's consideration. The moderator will unmute each attendee in sequence order for an opportunity to address Council.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION regarding the proposed Amendment is available to the public for inspection at the Municipal Office located at 7 Milne Street by appointment or at such time as the Township offices re-open and is available online at www.mindenhills.ca/newsroom. For more information about this matter, including information about preserving your appeal rights, contact the undersigned at iclendening@mindenhills.ca or by phone at 705-286-1260 (ext.206).

ANY PERSON MAY ATTEND the public meeting and/or make written or verbal representation either in support of or in opposition to the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment.

IF YOU WISH TO BE NOTIFIED OF THE DECISION of the Township of Minden Hills in respect to the proposed amendment, you must make a written request to the Clerk of the Township of Minden Hills at the address below.

IF A PERSON OR PUBLIC BODY DOES NOT make oral submissions at a public meeting, or make written submissions to the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills before the proposed by-law is passed, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Municipal Board unless, in the opinion of the Board, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

ACCESSIBILITY: The Township of Minden Hills is committed to providing services as set out in the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005. If you have accessibility needs and require alternative formats or other accommodations, please contact the undersigned.

PRIVACY DISCLOSURE: As one of the purposes of the Planning Act is to provide for planning processes that are open and accessible, all written submissions, documents, correspondence, e-mails or other communications (including your name and address) form part of the public record and may be disclosed/made available by the Township as deemed appropriate, including anyone requesting such information. Please note that by submitting any of this information, you are providing the Township with your consent to use and disclose this information as part of the planning process.

DATED this 17th day of September, 2020

Ian Clendening, MPI., Planner

Township of Minden Hills, 7 Milne Street, P.O. Box 359, Minden, ON, K0M 2K0

We cannot guarantee the exact time the Public Meeting will commence as the time may vary depending on the number of items on the agenda and the complexity of each matter brought forward.

Go on a virtual journey Oct. 3

Join area residents as they take you on a virtual journey, through their travel tales told during an online special performance called Six-Minute Escapes.

The experience is being coordinated by the Arts Council ~ Haliburton Highlands and the Haliburton Reads & Writes Committee and broadcast on YouTube Saturday, Oct. 3 at 7:30 p.m.

"The Six-Minute Escape is a collection of six-minute videos by filmmakers, renowned authors, and local folk who will take the audience on journeys as they share their adventures in new lands, distant or just down the street. Whether their stories take us overseas, or up to the skies in a float plane or on a 'loony' swim across Canning Lake, presenters will entertain, inspire and excite viewers," a media release from organizers says.

It doesn't cost anything to watch the program, but donations are welcome. Money raised by the arts council will go to its pro-

gramming and services that help artists during the difficult economic times created by the coronavirus pandemic.

"Leaving 'home' always gives us something new to experience. The past few months of lockdown, restrictions, shortages and uncertainty has affected us all. The Reads & Writes Committee of the arts council hopes this important fundraiser will help our community and transport the audience on a wonderful imaginary journey," Ruth Walker of Haliburton Reads & Writes Committee said.

Search for "Arts Council Haliburton Highlands" on YouTube to find the organization's channel where you will find a teaser video as well as the Six-Minute Escape video on Oct. 3 at 7:30 p.m.

A GoFundMe page for the arts council can be found at https://www.gofundme.com/f/6-minute-escape.

Staff

SUDOKU SOLUTION

9	3	7	6	5	8	4	2	1
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6	4	1	2	8	7	5	9	3

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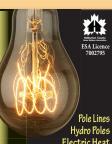
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- Excellent verbal communication and writing skills.
- Ability to follow set and standard procedures.
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Curry Chevrolet Buick GMC Ltd. in Haliburton, is seeking an Apprentice Service Technician to join our team!

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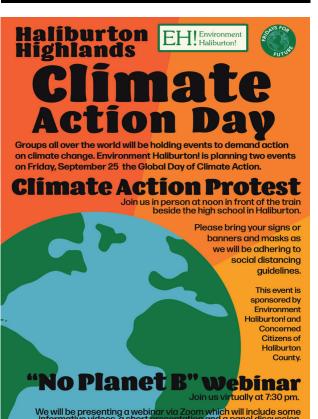
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> We are looking for a new board member to join our team. Here's what the current board members have to say:

"I feel privileged to serve an organization that so sincerely seeks to understand the needs of the community, and then provides programming tailored to meet those needs, reaching so many throughout our county." (Pam Hewitt-Osborne)

"Working with SIRCH's board of directors fulfills my passion to serve the community." (Barb Fawcett)

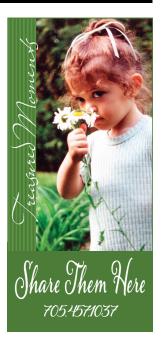
"Being a part of an organization that sees the potential in everyone regardless of their circumstances, and truly believes that no one is disposable, is inspiring. Everything SIRCH does comes down to one thing-helping people." (Erin Kernohan-Berning)

"People helping people is the hallmark of a compassionate and caring community. As a member of the Board of Directors, I feel privileged to be a part an organization which lives out this mandate through 'an unwavering belief in people and possibilities". (Marc Beisheim)

"I leave every board meeting feeling inspired and hopeful. Serving on the board provides me with a better understanding of the issues people are facing in Haliburton County and lets me see firsthand how SIRCH is meeting the immediate needs of people living here. For a minimal commitment of time each month, I get to contribute to making a difference in my community. I love it." (Sarah Adams)

"See it, Believe it, Achieve it This is why I chose to belong to this forward thinking organization. SIRCH is a corner stone agency within Haliburton County, that has an unwavering belief in people and possibilities." (Maureen

> Join our Board team. For more information contact Barbara Fawcett or Gena Robertson at info@sirch.on.ca or call 705-457-1742. Check out our website: www.sirch.on.ca





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Passed away peacefully on Sunday, September 13, 2020.

Willis was the beloved son of Mae and Frank Davis (both are predeceased). Dear brother of Doreen O'Loughlin and Lois Stata (predeceased), and brother-in-law of Glen Stata and John O'Loughlin (both are predeceased). He leaves behind niece Julie, nephews Gary, Larry, Marty and Johnny (predeceased) and their families.

Friends are invited to visit the family at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Bobcaygeon Rd., P.O. Box 427, Minden K0M 2K0 on Saturday, September 19, 2020 from 11:00 am until 1:00 pm. **Due to COVID 19 restrictions, All visitors must remain in their vehicles in the Funeral Home Parking Lot until being escorted into the funeral home by funeral home staff and the wearing of masks or facial coverings is mandatory. We appreciate your understanding during

these times.** A Graveside Interment Service will be held at the Twelve Mile Cemetery, Carnarvon on Saturday, September 19, 2020 at 2:00 pm.



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Amalgamation meeting set for Wednesday

AH&M, Lutterworth and Snowdon take their case to the public

The amalgamation process is progressing in the south-west end of Haliburton County.

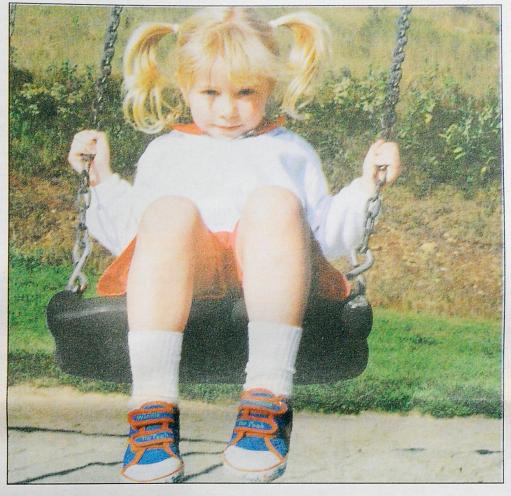
Officials from Anson, Hindon and Minden, Snowdon and Lutterworth will meet at the county council chambers in Minden this Wednesday, September 13, starting at 7 p.m. The meeting will be open to the public, although public input is not being sought at this time.

County CAO Les Shepherd has agreed to chair the meeting.

AH&M council passed a resolution agreeing with a Bicroft resolution which supports the county's initiative to move in the amalgamation process to a four-municipality county, consisting of: Bicroft, Cardiff, Glamorgan and Monmouth; Dysart et al; Snowdon, Lutterworth and Anson, Hindon Minden; and Stanhope and Sherborne et al.

'Our municipality has always supported this concept," said Reeve

(more on page 3)



SWINGING INTO SCHOOL

The first day of school turned out to be a lot of fun for Kelsi Eno. The Junior Kindergarten student discovered Mrs. Dawson's classroom at Archie Stouffer Elementary School was full of interesting activities and games, while outside, a set of swings beckoned. What a great way to start a new adventure in learning that can take Kelsi and her fellow students to who knows what heights?

Soyers Lake President praised for his effort in appealing water permit

The members of the Soyers Lake Ratepayers Association gave the president of their group, David Pengelly, a rousing round of applause at their annual general meeting, September 3 at PineStone Resort. The reason for their enthusiasm: Pengelly had crafted the appeal to the Ministry of Environment which had forced the reconsideration of a permit to draw millions of litres of water from Little Soyers Lake.

"This was not just a letter sent by a layman," executive member Burt Tait told the meeting. "The letter contained a sophisticated analysis that carried the day. The appeal convinced the Ministry of Environment officials they should insist on the safeguards mentioned in our letter. We were so lucky to have David in the position of president," he told the audience as the members seconded the tribute with sustained applause.

Past president and secretary Lew at the front of the room, he told the members that the president had put in many hours of work and background

research to ensure the Soyers Lake appeal was water tight.

According to the report presented by Pengelly, the appeal was prompted when the association was notified that the Ministry of Environment had accepted an application to withdraw 2,724,000 litres of water a day from Little Soyers Lake to irrigate a golf course and resort development planned for the property known as Woodland Ranch. Pengelly thanked Carolyn Coburn, who heads the county's environment committee, for alerting him to the fact the approval had been granted.

He noted that when he became aware of the permit, over half the appeal period had passed and there were only 15 days left to register their con-

Pengelly pointed out that one-third of the water in Soyers Lake comes from Little Soyers and this inflow is vital to the continued health of the main lake. He said the quantity of Pointing to a thick binder on the table tained in the approval would have resulted in a drop in the Little Soyers water level of a metre and a half, cutting the flow into the main lake. "The

Soyers Lake wetland, which is fed with water from Little Soyers, is vital to the health of our lake," the president told the audience. Pengelly, who is a retired professor from McMaster University in Hamilton, said the base of the lake's food chain starts in the wetlands. Any action to reduce its viability would have a direct impact on

There is little development on Little Soyers Lake itself, as it is unsuitable for most recreational activities. There are 234 recreational properties and permanent homes on the main

The lake association's appeal of the water permit was accepted, and following negotiations with the developer of Woodland Ranch, the MOE agreed that detailed and costly environmental studies had to be carried out, with copies provided to the government ministry and the lake association, before any water could be taken from Little Soyers Lake.

Pengelly said that nothing has happened since the meeting with the developer. "Before they can take a drop

of water, these reports have to be completed," he told the meeting. He also noted that the time period for the permit was reduced from the initial 25 years to five.

The president cautioned the members that, as a result of cutbacks, the Ministry of Environment is under-staffed. "They can't give applications like this one the attention they have in the past," he commented. "It is important to understand that what used to be a government responsibility, to protect our environment, is now our job. This is the result of not spending your (tax) money," he told the members.

Asked whether there was any reason to believe that the developer hadn't already started removing water from the lake, Pengelly said there was no evidence it was happening. He pointed out an irrigation system of that magnitude would require a major infrastructure and none was in place. He also said there appears to be no evidence of the creation of a recreational vehicle park accommodating 2700 vehicles as proposed in an early announcement

(more on page 4)

Locally Owned. Genuinely Canadian. When you support local, local supports you.

MINDEN HOME HARDWARE 705-286-1351

Proudly owned by Dan & Emily Moulton





Anson St, Minden \$268,500

- Large 2 bed, 1 bath bungalowWalkout to deck and spacious yard
- Excellent opportunity to live in town

NEW PRICE

On The Spot_{VARIET}

Bobcaygeon Rd

Great lottery earnings

Ideal family business

Profitable & well established



Gull Lake \$549,000

- · Large private waterfront lot on a premium lakes • 3.2 Acres, 240' of waterfrontage, level building site
- Hardpacked sand, shallow entry, cleaned and

West Shore Rd Kennisis Lk \$279,000

72 ac of forest /trails, also trail 2 Buckskir

Snowmobiling, ATVing, biking, horse riding

Portage 2 Redpine Lk, for canoe routes

Build your home here and enjoy nature

NEW PRICE



Eagle Lake \$799,900

Point lot with exception privacy

Panoramic views of the lake & Sir Sams

Open concept main floor with walkout 3+2 bedrooms and 2 baths



Kushog Lake \$879,000

- · 2-bedroom, 1-bathroom vintage log cabin
- 132 ft of waterfront on 4 acres
- West facing gorgeous sunsetsClean rock shelf shore + sand beach



- Sugar Island Gull Lake Totally renovated 4-bedroom 3 bath cottage
- 413 feet of frontage with sand beach
- Bonus Bunkie you have to see
- Main land parking, docking w/garage





- 100 Ft Wtrfrnt, 0.94 Acr, NW Exp.
- Clean, Sandy Shoreline, Big Lk Views
- Turnkey, New Renos/Upgrades
- · Single Car Garage



Carnarvon Home \$399,000

· Log home immaculately kept inside and out

Spacious principle rooms, 2 bdrms, 2 baths

Private location near two lake with beautiful

Highway Commercial \$350,000

• 8-acre parcel with 1240 'frontage on Cty Rd 21



- Percy Lake \$680,000 • 3.9 acre building lot, 555' of waterfront
- Incredible point lot with big lake views
- Private location, driveway installed • HST INCLUDED!



Miskwabi Lake \$949.900

SW exposure, beautiful sand beach

Over 4000 sq. ft home on 2-lake chain

Double garage, log workshop and drive shed





County Road 21 \$750,000

- Commercial property in Haliburton
- Prime corner location, 1.5 acres · Rental house as an added feature
- · Sale includes land, & building







Haliburton Lake Rd \$110,000

Large clearing for easy development
Just 10 minutes from Haliburton Village

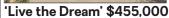
· Beautifully forested 6.86 Acre flat building lot

• Permitted gravel driveway currently in place









- Custom built (2017) w/ dock on Head Lake 2 -750 sq. ft. apartments w/ shared central
- kitchen & laundry Walk to amenities, schools & private HBTL park.





Soyers Lake Road \$479,900

- 3.8 private acres close to Haliburton
- Open concept living space w/ vaulted ceilings
- Paved driveway, attached garage



Wilberforce \$224,000

Rustic get away home/cottage

Very private

With guest cabin & outbuildings

• 10 minutes from Haliburton





Kabakwa Lake \$995,000

Beautiful western view

2000 sq ft, winterized

High speed internet







Prime lot with a stunning view over the Lake

· Hydro & Bell are available at the lot line

Year-round township road, terrific building site









Minden Area Bungalow \$389,000

- 3 bdrm/2 bath Bungalow
- · Cathedral Ceilings/Propane Fireplace
- Finished Walk-out Basement
- 1.1 Acres, Det'd Garage









- West-facing lot with expansive views & 102' of clean, deep rock shoreline

We are open for business! Our client's health remains our primary concern. Our REALTORS will be following certain protocols to ensure our clients safety. Contact us to learn more about our updated practices.

Bushwolf Lake \$1,345,000

- Over 750 acres of wilderness to explore
- Over 9000 feet of waterfront on Bushwolf Lake
- · Your only limit is your own imagination

Kennisis Lake \$465,000

• 3 bdrm, 1 bath (3 pc) seasonal cottage situated

PROUDLY PART OF THE HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY!

CENTURY 21 Granite Realty Group Ltd. BROKERAGE

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